

The

Chimes

Newsletter of

The Congregational Church of Hollis (UCC)
3 Monument Square Hollis, NH 03049

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www.HollisChurch.org

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**The
Congregational
Church of Hollis
(UCC)**

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The Chimes is published monthly
September to May. One edition is
published for the summer months.
All submissions for the newsletter are
due by the 15th of the month preced-
ing publication.

*“Let me tell you why you are here. You’re here
to be salt-seasoning that brings out the God-
flavors of this earth. . . . Here’s another way to
put it: You’re here to be light, bringing out the
God-colors in the world. . . shine! Keep open
house; be generous with your lives.”*
(Matthew 5:13-16, The Message transl.)



Dear Friends,

There is a lot of celebrating going on in Wittenburg, Germany this year. It was 500 years ago on October 31st that a priest and professor called Martin Luther nailed his so-called “95 Theses”, in protest of particular excesses and abuses of the Roman Catholic Church that especially hurt the socially vulnerable, onto the large wooden door of the cathedral in Wittenburg.

I visited Wittenburg and that very cathedral a few years ago and learned that, while we might manufacture images of a dramatic scene with a man nailing papers to the church with an angry flourish, in fact that door served as a sort of bulletin board for all sorts of public notices. Other academics in town would post papers there that they wished to debate or discuss. So, on the one hand, Luther’s action was somewhat ordinary.

On the other hand, it was most extraordinary. He likely had no idea at the time, but Luther’s act of protest — publicly denouncing the behavior of the same Roman Catholic Church that ordained him — would kick off theological and social movements that would change the shape of the Church, history, politics, and religion throughout the world. I have no idea how nervous he was, or how much courage Luther mustered before he posted his paper. But *his act of conscientious truth-telling on Oct. 31, 1517, gave birth to the Protestant Reformation . . .* and that has empowered countless others across the past five centuries to demonstrate their own courage of conscience and conviction in an effort to reform the Church, and their world.

The congregational tradition, and the United Church of Christ as a denomination, emerged from that impulse and action. We are part of a Reformed and reforming tradition that has expressed courage, conscience, and conviction across the centuries.

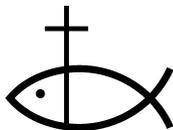
(continued on page 3)

From the Christian Education Office

Pre-Confirmation

The 7th and 8th grade pre-confirmation class is off to a great start with eager, attentive students.

The class is facilitated by Deb Blannin, Michelle Etchells and Pat Harris. After developing and signing a class covenant, the group heard from guest speaker, Sharon Saunders. Mrs. Saunders teaches English Language Learners at Nashua High South and is liaison between that program and the pre-confirmation and confirmation classes. (See below for related article) 7th and 8th graders also enjoyed a Progressive Dinner, hosted by the Burns, Hildreth and Harris families. This month, pre-confirmation members are looking at an overview of the Bible, including how the Bible came to be written.



Confirmation

The 9th grade Confirmation program began with an orientation for parents and students and continues with an overnight retreat at the Barbara C. Harris Center in Greenfield, NH, where students will learn more about the program, each other and themselves. The retreat includes worship, a challenging ropes course, Bible study and discussion of the concept of faith as a journey. Regular classes begin on Sunday, October 15, at 10:30am in the Emerson Chapel.

HELP US HELP OTHERS

An outreach project for Pre-Confirmation and Confirmation classes this year is helping teens who are new to our country by donating basic food and clothing that they otherwise would not have. Below is a list of items that are especially popular in the free Clothes Closet and Food Pantry at Nashua High School South, where students who are beginning to learn English can access a few necessities.

Donations may be left in the designated box in Emerson Chapel.

CLOTHES CLOSET

Desperately Needed (gently used is fine)

- Boys' Athletic Shoes • Boys' and girls' winter boots
- XL clothing (boys & girls) & XXL clothing (boys & girls)

New and always needed: • Socks • Underwear

FOOD PANTRY (Always Needed)

- Hormel "Compleats" • Pasta Sauces
- Kraft Macaroni and Cheese Boxed and Individual Servings
- Knorr Side Dishes (Spanish Rice, Broccoli & Cheddar, etc.)
- Chef Boy-Ar-Dee Individuals

Communion

The 5th and 6th graders will receive communion during the 10:30 service on World Communion Sunday, October 1st. Pre-confirmation members in the 7th & 8th grade are encouraged to attend 1st Sunday services to receive communion throughout the CE year.



Bible Sunday

On September 17th our third graders received their very own Bible from the church. The children received the Spark Bible (NRSV). We encourage them to think about how to apply Biblical lessons to their own lives and to live a faith-centered life. Removable stickers at the back of the Spark Bible make it all fun and friendly.



Youth Events:

To kick off our program year for youth events, we will offer Progressive Dinners for both our senior and junior youth! Our

7th and 8th graders met up on September 23rd for an evening of food and fun throughout the community! For seniors, grades 9-12, the dinner will take place on Sunday, October 8th, meeting at the church at 6pm. RSVP to Kelsey Berry at kelseyce@hollischurch.org, by October 1st!



Mission Trip News!

We had our Mission Trip service on September 24th, where we shared our stories, God sightings, and the transformative experience we had on “The Road” together.

Looking forward to Summer 2018!

We are planning to travel to **Wallingford, CT**, for the week of **July 8th – July 14th** for next summer’s week-long Mission Trip. We will again be working with Group Mission Trips to provide our youth and adult chaperones with a week of faith building, friendship forming and serving God by helping those in need. If you are going into 9th grade or above in the fall of 2018, you are welcome to attend!

Planning to join us in Wallingford? Complete the form below and send in your \$75 non-refundable deposit. You can drop it off in the mission trip mailbox in the church office or mail it to the church office.

2018 Mission Trip

Wallingford, CT July 8th – July 14th

Your \$75.00 non-refundable deposit (payable to the Congregational Church of Hollis) will secure a place for you at this camp.

Contact Information:

Name

Address

Phone

Camper Cell Phone

Camper Email

Parent Email

You will be contacted throughout the year for fundraising events, monthly planning and preparation meetings.

Please complete a separate form for each attending camper.

From the Pastor (cont. from p. 1)

I am proud that the UCC is regularly on the front lines of social concern and justice issues, advocating for oppressed, marginalized, and largely-ignored groups; working against the systemic resistance to noticing and tending to the plights of these vulnerable constituencies. It’s the work that Jesus did, and that we are called to do as his disciples.

Jesus was a reformer—he was constantly at work trying to improve the world he inhabited, inviting others to join in his holy efforts to embrace, honor, and care for every single child of God. As Christians, we too are called to the work of re-forming the Church and the world around us under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to ever more closely resemble God’s community of radical welcome and compassionate concern.

The theme for this year’s Stewardship Campaign — *“What Difference Does It Make?”* — invites us to consider the difference our

generosity makes. How might giving \$5 or \$10 more (±2-3 cups of coffee) each week to the work of our church’s ministry collectively re-fashion our potential impact on the faith formation of our community, and on the lives of people we don’t even know? How does giving time, thought, and effort to your Christian witness make a difference — in your own life, as well as others? Remember, sometimes ordinary acts result in extraordinary reformations!

Yours in faith, hope, and love,

Tanya





October 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>World Communion Sunday</p> <p>9:00 am – Communion Worship 10:30 am – Communion Worship / Sunday School 11:45 am – New Member Enquirer class #3/3 2pm-4 pm – Apple Festival on the town common</p> <p>1</p>	<p>7:15 am – Men’s Breakfast at Denny’s 8:00 am – Women’s Breakfast at Joey’s 7 pm – Christian Ed Board meeting</p> <p>2</p>	<p>10 am – Christmas Fair workshop 7pm – Stewardship Board meeting</p> <p>3</p>		<p>7 pm - Choir</p> <p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School 4 pm – Blessing of the Animals 6-7:30 pm – Senior Youth Group (grades 9-12) Progressive Dinner</p> <p>8</p>	<p>7:15 am – Men’s Breakfast at Denny’s 8:00 am – Women’s Breakfast at Joey’s 7:15 pm – Deacons meeting</p> <p>9</p>	<p>7 pm – Mission & Action Board meeting</p> <p>10</p>	<p>11 am – Staff meeting 5 pm – Facilities Committee meeting</p> <p>11</p>	<p>7 pm - Choir 8:15 pm – Music Board meeting</p> <p>12</p>	<p>Our church volunteers provide dinner at Ash St. Shelter</p> <p>13</p>	 <p>4pm-5:30pm Family BINGO night</p> <p>14</p>
<p>Stewardship Sunday</p> <p>9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School New Members join our church family 2:00 pm – Women’s Fellowship</p> <p>November <i>Chimes</i> deadline</p> <p>15</p>	<p>7:15 am – Men’s Breakfast at Denny’s 8:00 am – Women’s Breakfast at Joey’s 7 pm – Trustees meeting</p> <p>16</p>	<p>7 pm – Church Council meeting</p> <p>17</p>	<p>7 pm – Pastoral Care Team meeting</p> <p>18</p>	<p>7 pm - Choir</p> <p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>NH Conference UCC Annual meeting in Concord</p> <p>21</p>
<p>9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School 4:30 - 6:00 pm – Stewardship Celebration at Lawrence Barn</p> <p>22</p>	<p>7:15 am – Men’s Breakfast at Denny’s 8:00 am – Women’s Breakfast at Joey’s</p> <p>23</p>	<p>10 am – Christmas Fair workshop</p> <p>24</p>	 <p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	 <p>10am-3pm Hardy Hall</p> <p>28</p>
<p>9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School</p> <p>29</p>	<p>7:15 am – Men’s Breakfast at Denny’s 8:00 am – Women’s Breakfast at Joey’s</p> <p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>Mission Items of the Month: College Care Package items Fun, useful or tasty items like... small toys and games, non-perishable snacks, cocoa mix, Silly Putty, window clings, Nerf balls, bubbles, paper clips in fancy colors, post-its...</p>			



Christmas Fair News

Our fair will be held on **Saturday, November 18**

People Needed for...

Fair Day Setup	Coordinating Wreath orders
Fair Day Workers	Baking
Decorating	Children's craft helpers
Fashion Boutique	Post-Fair Clean-up Crew
Entertainment	

Items Needed...(drop off in church office)

- * **Goods & Services** for the **Silent Auction** - see article at right
- * **High End Clothing, Purses and Fashion Accessories** for the successful Fashion Boutique
- * **Craft Items** - Do you have any craft/handmade items that you would like to donate? We would like to hear from you.
- * **Angel Loft Items** – **New or gently used small trinkets, family games, jewelry, and things for Dad.** Also needed – recycled paper shopping bags for our “angels” to carry their purchases
- * **Gently used books, puzzles, DVDs/CDs, and games** for the always popular book room.

Christmas Fair Craft Workshops

The Christmas Fair is only 7 weeks away and there will be only 3 more workshops for the Arts, Crafts and Gifts table. So mark your calendars for 10am-12noon in Hardy Hall on:

- Tuesday, October 3
- Tuesday, October 24
- Friday, November 10

If you are working on projects at home, please try to finish them up by the November date and/or let Debbe Shipman know at 465-7645 or e-mail her at deb3ship@tds.net. If you like to sew, we have a few "take home" projects if you don't have ideas of your own.

Christmas Fair Fashion Boutique – Ladies (and gentlemen): If you have “gently used” but still stylish garments of any vintage which you no longer have a use for and would like to donate them to this year's church fair fashion boutique, contact Laura McCarthy at 603-557-2635, mccarthylaura21@gmail.com or drop off during church office hours.

Sign Up to Help!

Look for sign-up sheets outside the Church office to volunteer to help make this year's Christmas Fair another huge success.



Silent Auction

Once again, the Silent Auction Team is soliciting donations from the community. Here are some ways we could use your help!



• **Silent Auction Item Donations** – Do you have a new item (valued at \$20 or more) that you never got around to using? Even a gift card that you know you'll never use? Could you ask an organization that you frequent to donate an item or gift card? Just drop them off at the office with a note for the Silent Auction! How about calling businesses in the community to follow up on solicitation letters we sent them? Or even just help pick up donations from businesses that have pledged one?

• **Silent Auction Items, Goods and Services** - We are also calling out to our Hollis church family once again for **crafters, bakers, or anyone with a unique service** for our goods and services section of the Silent Auction. Be creative! Examples of services that have been auctioned in other churches include babysitting for a few hours, *Cookie of the Month* for 3 or 6 months, a one-man in-home theater production and website design services. It is helpful for us to learn about your donations by Monday, 10/30!

• **Silent Auction Set-Up** – Help display the silent auction donations in a visually appealing way to encourage the highest bids. Work will be done the day before the fair.

• **“Day-of” and “Day-After” Fair Help** – Greet and help customer sign-up or make their bids, and distribute the items to the winning bidders. 1-2 hour blocks are great!

Contact Cheri Vanderpool at cmlvanderpool@yahoo.com or 617-365-7194 if you can help with any of these things!



Blessing of the Animals Service

On Sunday, Oct. 8, at 4 p.m. we will celebrate our second annual Blessing of the Animals Service! Please bring your pet (leashed or crated, for safety's sake) or a photo of your pet to Little Nichol's Field

behind the library and gather with other pet-lovers in our congregation and community to give thanks and ask God's special blessing on our non-human family members—honoring and celebrating the ways our pets and so many other creatures bless our own lives. Feel free to invite friends and neighbors; they're welcome, too!

Do You Shop online at Amazon?

Turn your online purchases into dollars for the church *without costing you a penny* at **AmazonSmile!**

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to our church.

How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device.

Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?

Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

How do I select the Congregational Church of Hollis to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?

On your first visit to AmazonSmile smile.amazon.com, you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

Since our church joined the AmazonSmile program in January 2014, the total given to the church is \$512.92. **Help us grow!**



Letter of Thanks

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to so many friends and church family members for the beautiful cards and notes I received during my recovery after my recent accident. The reaching out to offer help in many different ways has been overwhelming. Nothing lifts the spirit as much as knowing that so many people care and are wishing you a speedy recovery. Thank you all so very much!!

Dee Wagner

Join in the fun at ...

Family Bingo Night!

Saturday,
October 14th
4:00 – 5:30 pm

All ages welcome! Come by

yourself, bring a friend, or bring the family! **Please bring coins** to use to cover squares, which will be donated to charity afterwards. Snacks and prizes provided!



Women's Fellowship

All women are invited to experience the meditative art form known as Zentangle. Tanya Tenkarian, artist and owner of Charming Nest Studio in Hollis, will talk about and lead the group in Zentangle on Sunday, October 15, 2-4pm, in the Emerson Chapel. Supplies and refreshments will be provided.

Our Church Records

Baptisms

September 10, 2017

Pearl Marie Langfield, daughter of Geoffrey and Brandie Langfield and sister of Olivia, Paige, and Chloe

Deaths

September 21, 2017

Richard B. Drisko

Thomas S. Rudinsky

From the Church Office

Grateful Thanks go to Nancy Bell, Brenda Gibson, Marsha Joyce, Jane Nichols, Freddi Olson, Thelma Pollard, Debbe Shipman and Joyce Toli for preparing your September *Chimes* for mailing.

Mission & Action News

October Item of the Month Freshman Care Package Items!

College freshman are in a challenging new experience and really appreciate a surprise package from the congregation that indicates that those at home are thinking of them. Appropriate items include microwaveable packages of popcorn, mac and cheese, tea bags and single serving packages of hot chocolate, snack foods such as granola bars, other fun goodies such as playing cards, fun sticky notes or paper clips are most welcome. Maybe you can think of other fun ideas! Thank you for supporting this great annual tradition!



Is there a college student in your family? Please provide us with freshmen names and addresses for newsletters and our freshman care package project.

Update college addresses of upperclassmen so we can send them our monthly newsletters, too. **Contact the church office** (churchoffice@hollischurch.org or 465-7797) with info.



Blood Drive

Red Cross Blood Drive

Saturday, October 28
10 am – 3 pm in Hardy Hall

The need for blood is urgent and constant! Most people are eligible to give blood. For more information or to schedule an appointment, visit www.redcrossblood.org. **Volunteers are needed to help with the drive!** No medical training is necessary! This is a great opportunity for students looking to earn credit for volunteer work as part of their extracurricular activities. If you can volunteer for a morning or afternoon shift, please contact Addie Saunders at roger-saunders@hotmail.com, 465-2613 or Barbara Amos at bamos_99@yahoo.com, 603-864-9728.

Nashua Area CROP Hunger Walk Sunday, October 29

CROP Hunger Walks are community-wide events sponsored by Church World Service and organized by local congregations or groups to raise funds to end hunger at home and around the world. More than 1,000 CROP Hunger Walks each year help to provide food, water, and resources that empower people to meet their own needs such as seeds, tools, wells and water systems. You can gather together a team or walk as in individual! For info and registration, go to: <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/nashuanh/>



Ash Street Shelter Dinners

Once a month the church provides a dinner for the Ash Street Shelter. The sign up sheet is filled through the end of this year! Thank you, volunteers, for cooking! The sign-up sheet for 2018 is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway. Certificates are available to cover the cost of the meal. Please contact Karen Marino for details. kmarino360@gmail.com or 603-475-3073

Fuel and Food Assistance

We have had a stretch of beautiful weather recently but winter is on its way! Do you know of anyone needing heating fuel or food assistance? If so, please ask them to contact Coleen Brady at cbrady27@comcast.net or 603-598-8049. Oil is generously donated by our partnering oil supplier, and we purchase local grocery store gift cards and fuel certificates with our Christmas Eve offering.

Recent Donation by M & A

UCC Hurricane Relief Fund
Greater Nashua Habitat for Humanity

Ongoing Collections

- **Unwanted eyeglasses** - The Lions Club recycles for use by those in need
- **Unwanted cell phones** - *Bridges* gives the phones to victims of domestic or sexual violence for use in calling 911 for help. Even phones that don't work are recycled, earning *Bridges* some income.
- **Greeting cards and stationery** are sent to the NH State Women's Prison



Please place items in the labeled boxes in the bookcase next to the shopping cart. Thank you for your response throughout the year!



The Congregational Church of Hollis
 (United Church of Christ)
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



What Difference
 Does the Church Make?

Stewardship Sunday is October 15

Stewardship season is upon us and as you consider your financial commitment to the church we ask that you reflect on the question ***“What difference does the church make?”*** What impact does the church have on you, your family, and the community? The financial goal of this year’s pledge drive is \$300,000 — a 7% increase from last year’s pledges. This requires an average gift of \$1,500 per family. Stewardship Sunday is scheduled for October 15th where we will submit and dedicate our pledges for the coming year.

Join us for a Stewardship Celebration!

We are inviting everyone who submits a pledge to a Stewardship Celebration at Lawrence Barn on Sunday, October 22nd from 4:30PM – 6:00PM where we will enjoy appetizers, cake, fellowship, and a presentation of how ***your contributions make a difference.***



**STEWARDSHIP
 CELEBRATION**